

Message Text

SECRET

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71
ACTION SS-25

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9032

S E C R E T USUN 3604

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, VN
SUBJECT: SEPTEMBER 7 MEETING WITH VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR
DINH BA THI

REF: USUN 3518

1. AMB SHERER MET WITH AMB DINH BA THI AT LATTER'S
REQUEST FOR FIFTEEN MINUTE CONVERSATION IN INDONESIAN
LOUNGE.

2. DINH BA THI OPENED BY SAYING HE WANTED TO DISCUSS
TWO MATTERS: FIRSTLY, THE NEW "AGREEMENT" BETWEEN
VIETNAM AND THE US TO DISCUSS IN PARIS OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS
INCLUDING MIAS AND RECONSTRUCTION; AND SECONDLY, VIETNAM'S
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP. SHERER SAID HE WAS AWARE THAT
OCCASIONAL MEETINGS OCCURRED IN PARIS BETWEEN REPRESENTA-
TIVES OF OUR TWO EMBASSIES BUT THAT HE DID NOT KNOW OF ANY
NEW "AGREEMENT". DINH BA THI COULD PROVIDE NO DETAILS AND
SUGGESTED THAT SHERER SHOULD OBTAIN THESE IN WASHINGTON.

3. WITH REGARD TO THE APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
DINH BA THI STATED THE US VETO LAST YEAR HAD BEEN STRONGLY
CONDEMNED BY "WORLD PUBLIC OPINION" AND EXPRESSED THE
HOPE THAT SUCH AN "ERRONEOUS" ACTION WOULD NOT BE
REPEATED. SHERER SAID HE KNEW THE SECURITY COUNCIL WAS
SCHEDULED TO CONSULT ON THE APPLICATION ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER
10, AND ASKED DINH BA THI WHEN HE INTENDED TO PRESS FOR
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FORMAL SECURITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION. DINH BA THI SAID

THAT FORMAL APPLICATION WOULD BE MADE ON MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 13.

4. DINH BA THI THEN SAID THAT THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION ON THE 12 PILOTS HAD BEEN A GESTURE OF GOOD WILL, AND ALTHOUGH THIS SHOULD NOT BE CONNECTED IN ANY WAY WITH VIETNAM'S APPLICATION, HE ASKED FOR SHERER'S PERSONAL OPINION ABOUT HOW THIS MIGHT AFFECT THE U.S. VOTE. SHERER DECLINED TO COMMENT.
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